



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/580,365	05/26/2000	Stephen Dao Hui Hsu	004828.P001	8126
7590 08/07/2006				
Dennis M De Guzman Blakely Sokoloff Taylor & Zafman LLP 12400 Wilshire Boulevard Seventh Floor Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026		EXAMINER TRAN, TONGOC		
		ART UNIT 2134		PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/580,365

Applicant(s)

HSU ET AL.

Examiner

Tongoc Tran

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 37-72 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on May 19, 2006. Claims 37-72 are pending for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's contends that the cited prior art, Farah, is not a proper prior art reference because it was no indication that the file was posted on the Internet prior to Applicant's filing date, May 26, 2006 even though the article has a date of April 1, 2000. Examiner hereby provides a reference showing that the Farah file was made available online on March 6, 2000. Therefore, in light of the support of this reference, the Farah reference is proper and the rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 37-43 and 45-72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obenhuber et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,638) in view of Demuth et al. ("securing the anonymity of content providers in the World Wide Web") and further in view of Farah

("Encrypted Hypertext Transfer Protocol-UGGC/1.0", April, 2000, Network Working Group", pages 1-5).

In respect to claims 37, 51 and 55, Obenhuber discloses a method comprising: receiving from a terminal or an intermediate unit a first request from a terminal behind a firewall at a secure server outside of the firewall transmitting a second request by the secure server to a web site containing the web page, wherein the second request alters or omits an address of the terminal; retrieving the web page designated in the second request; modifying an address associated with the retrieved web page by the secure server so that the secure server appears to be the source of the web page and the firewall is unable to determine the address associated with the retrieved web page; and encrypting the content of the retrieved web page by the secure server and sending the encrypted web page by the secure server, via a secure link, to the terminal (see col. 4, lines 21-35).

including a composite address the composite address including an address of a secure server with an address of a web page concatenated thereto; transmitting a second request to a web site containing the web page; retrieving the web page designated in the second request (see col. 5, line 40-col. 6, line 10).

Obenhuber discloses incoming or outgoing packet are subject to filtering and address transformation depending on the condition of rules but does not explicitly discloses the first request including a composite address, the composite address including an unencrypted address of the secure server with an encrypted address of a

Art Unit: 2134

web page concatenated thereto, wherein the terminal encrypted an unencrypted address of the web page provided to the terminal; modifying an address associated with the retrieved web page so that the secure server appears to be the source of the web page; sending web page to the terminal .

However, Demuth discloses providing clients and servers anonymity by protecting both clients and servers accessing web without being recognized (Demuth, Abstract). Farah discloses partial address encryption technique by encrypting URL address and data traveling from client to server (Farah, pages 1-4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Obenhuber's accessing the Internet from behind the firewall with the teaching of Demuth and Farah's providing anonymity of both clients and servers by encrypting URL addresses traveling between the clients and servers to protect clients and servers from being recognized.

Furthermore, Obenhuber does not disclose wherein the firewall is unable to decrypt the encrypted content of the retrieved web page. However, Official Notice is taken that the more longer the key, the more difficult to break the code. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prevent any system from decrypting the code by providing secure encryption key that is hard to break.

In respect to claim 38, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37 wherein the secure link comprises a secure sockets layer (SSL) link (see Obenhuber, col. 9, lines 20-25).

In respect to claim 39, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37 wherein modifying the address associated with the retrieved web page comprises modifying a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) or Internet Protocol (IP) address of the web site (see Farah, page 2).

In respect to claim 40, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37 wherein modifying the address associated with the retrieved web page comprises modifying an address associated with a hypertext link in the retrieved -web page to indicate; the-address-associated with the secure server (see Farah, pages 2-4).

In respect to claim 41, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37, further comprising modifying computer code associated with the retrieved web page to cause subsequent requests related to the retrieved web page to be sent by the terminal to the secure server instead of to the web site (see Farah, pages 2-4).

In respect to claim 42, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37, further comprising decrypting the encrypted address of the web page (see Farah, pages 1-5).

In respect to claim 43, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37, further comprising repeating the retrieving, modifying, encrypting, and sending while the secure link is active (see Obenhuber, col. 5, line 60-col. 6, line 10 and col. 9, lines 10-25).

In respect to claim 45, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37. Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah do not further comprising, at the secure server, controlling transmission of electronic files to the terminal based on preferences received from the terminal. However, Official Notice is taken that providing means of services based on client's indication of preference is old and well known (i.e. via email). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate client's preferences in receiving service with Obenhuber's enabling client behind the firewall to access Internet for services to provide client an option to choose means of receiving services.

In respect to claim 46, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37, further comprising storing under a pseudonym at a location communicatively coupled to the secure server, electronic files sent with the web page (see col. 5, line 40-col. 6, line 10).

In respect to claim 47, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 37, further comprising:

obtaining information related to a user's communication with the secure server (see);

Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah do not disclose providing the obtained information to an entity based on permission of the user and in exchange for providing the secure link; and providing advertisements from the entity to the user related to the obtained information. However, profiling Internet user in exchange of service in order to provide advertising service is old and well known. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Obenhuber providing user access to Internet resource with user profiling for marketing purposes.

In respect to claims 48-50, the claimed limitations are machine-readable medium that are substantially similar to claims 37-39. Therefore, claims 48-50 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

In respect to claims 52-54, the claimed limitations are apparatus claims that are substantially similar to method claims 1, 38 and 46. Therefore, claims 52-54 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

In respect to claim 56, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 55, further comprising receiving, at the secure server, communication protocol information related to a communication between the terminal and the intermediate unit, to allow the secure server to respond to requests sent to the intermediate unit from the terminal (see Obenhuber, col. 6, lines 1-19).

In respect to claim 57, Obenhuber, Demuth and Farah disclose the method of claim 55 further comprising receiving subsequent requests from the terminal at the intermediate unit rather than directly at the secure server from the terminal (see Obenhuber, col. 6, lines 1-19).

In respect to claims 58-59, the claim limitations are similar to claim 42. Therefore, claim 58 is rejected based on the similar rationale.

In respect to claims 60-69, the claim limitations are machine-readable medium and apparatus claims that are substantially similar to method claims 55-59. Therefore, claims 60-69 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

In respect to claims 70-72, the claimed limitations are similar to claims 1 and 40. Therefore, claims 70-72 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

4. Claim 44 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Obenhuber et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,638) in view of Demuth et al. ("securing the anonymity of content providers in the World Wide Web") and further in view of Farah ("Encrypted Hypertext Transfer Protocol-UGGC/1.0", April, 2000, Network Working Group", pages 1-5) and further in view of Gampper et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,106).

In respect to claim 44, Subramaniam and Farah disclose the method of claim 37. Subramaniam and Farah do not disclose triggering a deletion of stored electronic files at the terminal related to a communication via the secure link, in response to termination of the communication between the terminal and the secure server.

However, Gampper discloses continuously delete files in a local cache (see col. 1, lines 64-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the continuously deletion of storage taught by Gampper to make room for recent retrieved web pages (Gampper, col. 1, lines 64-67).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

Art Unit: 2134

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tongoc Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3843. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-3962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TT

Jacques Louis-Jacques
JACQUES LOUIS-JACQUES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100